

## **Garbage and Recycling:** *the Basics for Town Pick-up*

**Sept. – June:** Garbage and Recyclables (blue box) are collected in Branford once a week on Monday, Tuesday, Wednesday, or Thursday, depending on your neighborhood.

**July – August:** Garbage is collected twice a week: either on Mondays and Thursdays, or Tuesdays and Fridays. Recyclables are still collected once a week on the same day as they were in the winter.



*See the June Mailing for the schedule for your neighborhood*

### **Curbside Garbage Rules**

For the Town to collect your garbage

- it must be put out at the Town curb;
- it must be put out the night before your collection day (recycling must also go out the night before);
- it must be put out in bags or in garbage cans with handles. Cans must be **no larger than 45 gallons**, and not be narrower at the top than the bottom;
- it may contain up to three bags (but no more) of yard waste (other than leaves or grass);
- it may contain your regular kitchen-wastebasket-type weekly garbage, but not major clean-outs;
- it must **not** contain leaves (we collect them separately);
- it must **not** contain grass clippings (leave them on your lawn);
- it must **not** have any recyclables in it (see below);
- it must **not** weigh more than 50 pounds per container;
- it must **not** contain construction or demolition material;
- it must **not** contain large items such as stuffed furniture; and
- it must **not** contain metal items such as appliances or bicycles, or other things that won't burn.

*Please...* Compost whatever you can at home and leave grass clippings on the lawn.

### **Curbside Recycling Rules**

The containers that go **loose** in the blue box are

- **glass bottles & jars** – clear, green, and brown;
- **metal cans** – aluminum or steel (“tin”);
- **aluminum foil & foil pie plates**;
- **cloudy plastic milk jugs**, (undyed #2 only); and
- **milk cartons, juice cartons, and juice boxes**.

Before you put containers in the blue box

- throw away (in the garbage) any caps, corks, and screw-off lids;
- rinse containers enough so they won't smell; and
- **squash the milk jugs and the milk cartons** – otherwise we pay a lot of money to transport air.



*Please*

- **don't** put containers in bags. We want them loose;
- **don't** give us clear or colored plastics (not even dyed white like a bleach bottle or white like the Hood™ milk jugs). We only take the cloudy ones that have the #2 symbol on the right; and
- **don't** give us aerosol cans, Pyrex or plate glass, or anything that didn't have pet food or people food in it.



On top of the loose bottles and cans put

- bundled **newspaper**, and
- bundled glossy **magazines** and glossy **catalogs**.

Either put them in a brown paper bag or tie with cotton string. They may be mixed together.

*Please*

- **don't** give us junk mail, cereal boxes, or other paper in the blue box;
- **never** use plastic bags for any recycling, even if it is raining; and
- **never** mix newspapers/magazines together with bottles/cans in a bag – they're going different places! Set the bag of news on top or along side the recycling box.

Next to your box we will also take **corrugated cardboard** (the 3-layer kind):



- Once a month you may put out as much corrugated cardboard as you want, including big pieces and whole boxes. They must be clean and empty. Refer to the June schedule mailing for dates. Your large cardboard day is on your recycling day during the week with the "C" on the calendar;
- On your regular recycling day we will pick up 1 small bundle of corrugated cardboard which must be empty, clean, flattened, cut or folded to no more than 2 feet x 2 feet and neatly stacked with no more than a few boxes, but please save everything for the large cardboard day if possible; or
- Large bundles of corrugated cardboard may be dropped off at the transfer station.

We collect **leaves** in brown paper leaf bags on your recycling day during scheduled weeks in the spring and fall. The schedule is mailed each October. Off-season leaves may go to the transfer station.

### How to Get Rid of Other Things

- **Household hazardous waste** such as batteries, oil-based paint, pesticides, or cleaning products — Take to HazWaste Central in New Haven, open Saturdays from 9 A.M. to noon from mid-May through the end of October (except holidays), located on 90 Sargent Drive behind the Regional Water Authority. For more information: call 401-2712.
- **Car batteries** — Take to any place in the state that sells new ones.
- **Propane tanks** — Take to Berkshire Petroleum on Leetes Island Road for \$3.
- **Paper Grocery Bags** — Reuse to bundle newspaper and magazines; bring back to the store for your next batch of groceries; give to neighbors who need extra; or take to Branford Food Council. They may also be recycled with the corrugated cardboard.
- **Plastic Shopping Bags** — Reuse for shopping or as garbage bags, or take to Branford Food Council or Thrift Shops for reuse. Never use them to bundle recyclables.
- **Phone books** can be recycled at the transfer station, or in the blue barrels by the brick SBC/SNET building's driveway on Main St.
- **Styrofoam peanuts** — call the Peanut Hotline at 1-800-828-2214 or take to Ship Rite on Rte 139.
- You may take **most other materials** to our transfer station / recycling center at 747 East Main St. It accepts **scrap metal, office paper, tires, used motor oil, brush, Christmas trees, large items, fluorescent bulbs, computers & TVs, and demolition materials** (as well as all the garbage and recyclables we pick up). See transfer station flyer.



### Holiday Schedule



Recognized holidays are New Year's Day; Martin Luther King, Jr. Day; Lincoln's Birthday; Presidents' Day; Good Friday; Memorial Day; Independence Day; Labor Day; Columbus Day; Veterans' Day; Thanksgiving; and Christmas. Refer to the June schedule mailing to see when they are observed.

### More Information

Refer to the June mailing for schedules for winter and summer garbage and recycling collections, large cardboard collection and holiday collection. Flyers are available for leaf collection. Many other flyers are available for more details on what goes in the blue box, composting, grass clippings, household hazardous waste, use of the transfer station and more things you can do to help our environment. Please ask. Phone **315-0622**, or write to Peg Hall / Solid Waste Manager / P.O. Box 150 / Branford, CT 06405. Or visit our website at [www.Branford-CT.gov](http://www.Branford-CT.gov).